

- (1) one or more colored film-forming base components having a Dv.99 of no more than 30 μ m, and
- (2) one or more uncolored film-forming components, wherein at least one of the uncolored film-forming components is an uncolored film-forming component (2a) that (i) has a Dv.99 that is more than 20 μ m and (ii) has a higher Dv.99 or higher Dv.50 than the one or more colored film-forming base components (1) taken together,

wherein the ratio of colored film-forming base components to uncolored film-forming components in the composition is in the range of from 1:99 to 60:40 by weight.

2. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 1, wherein the one or more uncolored film-forming components (2a) are present in an amount of at least 10% by weight of the total film-forming components (1) and (2).

3. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 1, wherein there is no more than 30% by weight, calculated on the weight of the total film-forming components (1) and (2), of uncolored film-forming components having a Dv.99 (i) that is no higher than the Dv.99 of the one or more colored film-forming components taken together, and (ii) that is less than 20 μ m.

A² 4. (Amended) A powder coating composition comprising composite powder particles that are an agglomerate of individual particulate components fused or bonded together, wherein the individual particulate components comprise

- (1) one or more colored film-forming base components each having a Dv.99 of no more than 30 μ m, and
- (2)(a) one or more uncolored film-forming components each having a Dv.99 of more than 20 μ m and each having a higher Dv.99 and/or a higher Dv.50 than the one or more colored film-forming base components (1) taken together, and, optionally,

- (b) one or more other uncolored film-forming components.

wherein the one or more colored film-forming base components (1) is present in an amount of from 1 to 60% by weight of the total film-forming components (1) and (2), the one or more uncolored film-forming components (2a) are present in an amount of from 10 to 99% by weight of the total film-forming components (1) and (2), and the one or more other uncolored film-forming components (2b) are present in an amount of up to 30% by weight of the total film-forming components (1) and (2).

5. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 1, wherein there are two or more colored film-forming base components (1).

6. (Amended) A powder coating composition comprising composite powder particles that are an agglomerate of individual particulate components fused or bonded together, wherein the individual particulate components comprise

- (1) two or more colored film-forming base components having a Dv.99 of no more than 30µm, and
- (2) one or more uncolored film-forming components, wherein at least one uncolored film-forming components is a uncolored film-forming component (2a) that has a Dv.99 of more than 20µm and that is higher than the Dv.99 of the two or more colored film-forming base components (1) taken together,

wherein the ratio of the two or more colored film-forming base components (1) to the one or more uncolored film-forming components (2) is in the range of from 1:99 to 30:70 by weight.

7. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 6, wherein the uncolored film-forming components (2a) are present in an amount of at least 10% by weight of the total film-forming components (1) and (2).

8. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 6, wherein there is no more than 30% by weight, calculated on the weight of the total film-forming components (1) and (2), of uncolored film-forming component having a Dv.99 (i) that is no higher than the Dv.99 of the colored film-forming components taken together, and (ii) that is less than 20 μ m.

9. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 1, wherein there is at least one uncolored film-forming component (2a) that has a Dv.99 of at least 30 μ m.

10. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 9, wherein there is at least one uncolored film-forming component (2a) that has a Dv.99 of at least 35 μ m.

11. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 10, wherein there is at least one uncolored film-forming component (2a) that has a Dv.99 of at least 40 μ m.

12. (Amended) A powder coating composition comprising composite powder particles that are an agglomerate of individual particulate components fused or bonded together, wherein the individual particulate components comprise

(1) two or more colored film-forming base components having a Dv.99 of no more than 30 μ m, and

(2) one or more uncolored film-forming components, wherein at least one uncolored film-forming components is a uncolored film-forming component (2a) having a Dv.99 of more than 40 μ m,

wherein, the ratio of the two or more colored film-forming base components to the one or more uncolored film-forming components is in the range of from 1:99 to 60:40 by weight.

13. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 12, wherein the uncolored film-forming components (2a) are present in an amount of at least 10% by weight of the total film-forming components.

14. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 12, wherein there is no more than 30% by weight, calculated on the weight of the total film-forming components (1) and (2), of uncolored film-forming components having a Dv.99 (i) that is no higher than the Dv.99 of the colored film-forming components taken together, and (ii) that is less than 20µm.

15. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 1, wherein the ratio of colored film-forming base components (1) to uncolored film-forming components (2a) is in the range of from 1:99 to 50:50 by weight.

16. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 15, wherein the ratio of colored film-forming base components (1) to uncolored film-forming components (2a) is in the range of from 1:99 to 40:60 by weight.

17. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 16, wherein the ratio of colored film-forming base components (1) to film-forming components (2a) is in the range of from 1:99 to 30:70 by weight.

18. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 1, wherein the ratio of colored film-forming base components (1) to uncolored film-forming components (2a) is in the range of from 5:95 to 30:70.

19. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 1, wherein the uncolored film-forming components (2) are present in an amount of at least 50% by weight of the total film-forming components (1) and (2).

20. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 19, wherein the uncolored film-forming components (2) are present in an amount of at least 60% by weight of the total film-forming components (1) and (2).

21. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 20, wherein the one or more uncolored film-forming components (2) are present in an amount of at least 70% by weight of the total film-forming components (1) and (2).

22. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claims 2, wherein the one or more uncolored film-forming components (2a) are present in an amount of at least 20% by weight of the total film-forming components.

23. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 22, wherein the one or more uncolored film-forming components (2a) are present in an amount of at least 30% by weight of the total film-forming components.

24. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 23, wherein the one or more uncolored film-forming components (2a) are present in an amount of at least 40% by weight of the total film-forming components.

25. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 24, wherein the one or more uncolored film-forming components (2a) are present in an amount of at least 50% by weight of the total film-forming components.

26. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 25, wherein the one or more uncolored film-forming components (2a) are present in an amount of at least 60% by weight of the total film-forming components.

27. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 1, wherein there is no more than 15% by weight, calculated on the weight of total film-forming components (1) and (2), of the one or more uncolored film-forming components (2a).

28. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claims 1, wherein there are two or more compatible colored film-forming base components (1).

29. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 1, wherein the uncolored film-forming component (2a) or at least one of the uncolored film-forming components (2) is compatible with the colored film-forming base components (1) during film-formation.

30. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claims 1, wherein the uncolored film-forming component (2a) or at least one of the uncolored film-forming components is incompatible with the colored film-forming base components (1) or becomes incompatible with the colored film-forming base components during film-formation.

31. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claims 1, wherein the colored film-forming base components (1) contain a polyester.

32. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 30, wherein the uncolored film-forming component (2a) or at least one of the uncolored film-forming components (2) contains a polyester having a different functionality from the polyester of the colored film-forming base components (1).

33. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 31, which comprises an uncolored film-forming component (2) that contains a polyester, wherein uncolored film-forming component and the colored film-forming base components (1) contain different curing agents, wherein one of the curing agents is an epoxy curing agent or a co-reactable epoxy resin.

34. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claims 1, comprising an uncolored film-forming component (2) which is an agglomerate of an uncolored film-forming component fused or bonded to form composite particles with a non-film-forming component.

35. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 1, wherein uncolored film-forming component (2) includes a texturing additive.

36. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 34, which comprises a uncolored film-forming component (2) that includes mica.

37. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claims 1, wherein there is at least one uncolored film-forming component (2a) that has a Dv.99 of no more than 90µm.

38. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 1, wherein there is at least one uncolored film-forming component (2a) that has a Dv.90 of at least 14µm.

39. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 38, wherein there is at least one uncolored film-forming component (2a) that has a Dv.90 of at least 18µm.

40. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claims 1, wherein there is at least one uncolored film-forming component (2a) that has a Dv.90 of no more than 75µm.

41. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claims 1, wherein there is at least one uncolored film-forming component (2a) that has a Dv.99 in the range of from 50 to 65µm.

42. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claims 1, wherein there is at least one uncolored film-forming component (2a) that has a Dv.50 in the range of from 5 to 45µm.

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43. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 42, wherein there is at least one uncolored film-forming component (2a) that has a Dv.50 of at least 8µm.

44. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 43, wherein there is at least one uncolored film-forming component (2a) that has a Dv.99 of at least 40µm and a Dv.50 of at least 10µm

45. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 43, wherein there is at least one uncolored film-forming component (2a) that has a Dv.50 in the range of from 12 to 30µm.

46. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claims 1, wherein at least one of the colored film-forming base components (1) has a Dv.99 in the range of from 6 to 25µm.

47. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claims 1, wherein at least one of the colored film-forming base components (1) has a Dv.50 of no more than 18µm.

48. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 47, wherein at least one of the colored film-forming base components (1) has a Dv.50 of no more than 15µm.

49. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 48, wherein at least one of the colored film-forming base components (1) has a Dv.50 in the range of from 2 to 12µm.

50. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claims 1, wherein the colored film-forming base components contain from 5 to 70 weight % of a pigment, calculated on the total weight of the colored film-forming base components.

51. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claims 1, wherein the colored film-forming base components contain from 0.5 to 50 weight % of the pigment, calculated on the total weight of the colored film-forming base components.

52. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claims 1, wherein the individual particulate components of the agglomerate include one or more non-film-forming components.

53. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 52, wherein the individual particulate components of the agglomerate include a texturing agent.

54. (Amended) The powder coating composition of claim 52, wherein the one or more non-film-forming components constitute up to 50% by weight of the particulate components of the composition.

55. (Amended) A kit for the preparation of powder coatings in a number of different colors comprising:

a plurality of differently colored film-forming base components, each with a Dv.99 of no more than 30µm, and

one or more uncolored film-forming components, each having a higher Dv.99 or a higher Dv.50 than the colored film-forming base components and each Dv.99 being more than 40µm.

56. (Amended) The kit of claim 55, wherein there is at least one uncolored film-forming components that has a Dv.99 of no more than 90µm.

57. (Amended) The kit of claim 55, comprising at least 7 differently colored film-forming base components.

58. (Amended) The kit of claim 55, comprising an uncolored film-forming component that is compatible during film-formation with the colored film-forming base components, and an uncolored film-forming component that is incompatible with the colored film-forming base components or that becomes incompatible with the colored film-forming base components during film-formation.

59. (Amended) A kit comprising for the preparation of powder coatings in a number of different colors comprising:

at least 7 differently colored film-forming base components,

an uncolored film-forming component that is compatible with the colored film-forming base components and remains compatible with the colored film-forming base components during film-formation and that has a Dv.99 of more than 40µm and no more than 90µm, and

an uncolored film-forming component that is incompatible with the colored film-forming base components or that becomes incompatible with the colored film-forming base components during film-formation and that has a Dv.99 of more than 40µm and no more than 90µm.

60. (Amended) The kit of claim 59, comprising means for comminution of the colored film-forming base components to a powder having Dv.99 of no more than 30µm.

61. (Amended) The kit of claim 55, wherein the colored film-forming base components contain a polyester.

62. (Amended) The kit of claim 55, comprising at least 3 uncolored film-forming components.

63. (Amended) The kit of claim 55, comprising means for agglomerating the components to produce a fluidisable powder.

64. (Amended) A process for preparing the powder coating composition of claim 1, which comprises providing the one or more colored film-forming base components (1) and the one or more uncolored film-forming components (2a) to provide a mixture of components and mixing and agglomerating the mixture of components into composite particles such that the composition is air-fluidisable and can be applied to a substrate by electrostatic spray.

65. (Amended) A process for preparing the powder coating composition of claim 1 from a kit comprising a plurality of differently colored film-forming base components and one or more uncolored film-forming components having a Dv.99 of more than 40µm, which comprises comminuting at least one of the colored film-forming base components to provide

a powder having a Dv.99 of no more than 30µm, and mixing and agglomerating the at least one comminuted colored film-forming base components and at least one uncolored film-forming component having a Dv.99 or a Dv.50 higher than the Dv.99 or Dv.50 of the at least one comminuted colored film-forming base components taken together, respectively, to form composite particles, such that the composite particles are air-fluidisable and can be applied to a substrate by electrostatic spray.

66. (Amended) The powder coating composition prepared by the process of claim 64.

67. (Amended) A process for forming a coating on a substrate, which comprises applying the powder coating composition of claims 1 to a substrate, and heating the applied composition to form a continuous coating.

68. (Amended) A substrate coated by a process of claim 67.

REMARKS

Claims 1-68, as amended, are pending in this application for the Examiner's review and consideration. Applicants have amended the claims to conform with U.S. patent practice and to more clearly recite the invention. As no new matter has been added herein, these changes should be entered.

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